

Summer Opportunity for Educators: Write Items for Future MEAP Assessments!

The Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) is in the final stages of switching to Michigan educator-developed assessments for MEAP in Grades 3-9 and high school. In order to ensure the highest quality for our assessments, we are seeking Michigan educators to join us in Lansing during three days in June for training and initial item writing, and three days in August for follow-up.

The training will include Principles of Item Writing and Aligning the Items to the Michigan Standards. The entire program will be coordinated by assessment professionals from Harcourt Assessment.

Interested participants who did not serve on a MEAP Item Writing Team last summer will be required to submit three original test items (aligned to specific Michigan Curriculum Framework benchmarks or GLCEs) that they created themselves, along with a letter of recommendation from their building administrator. The letter of recommendation should comment on the applicant's experiences with teaching and with assessment/testing.

Several educators who served on a team last summer will be invited back to serve as mentors for new members, as well as to develop new items. Notification letters will be sent soon to all educators who participated in the 2005 item writing.

All training will be done at the West Campus of Lansing Community College. The confirmed dates for the June and August sessions are as follow:

June 13-15: Mathematics and Science
June 27-29: ELA and Social Studies
August 8-10: ELA and Social Studies
August 15-17: Mathematics and Science

Applicants have until April 28, 2006 to sign up online by going to <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=789631931010>. Sample items and the administrator's letter of reference should be sent to:

Dr. William Brown
Michigan Department of Education/OEAA
608 West Allegan Street
P.O. Box 30008
Lansing, MI 48909-0008

Or, you may fax them to (517) 335-1186.